THE VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

The Freedom of the Preſs is one of the great Bulwarks of Liberty, and can never be reſtrained but by deſpotic Governments.

[JULY 4, 1777.] WILLIAMSBURG: Printed by DIXON & HUNTER. [No. 1351.]

BRUNSWICK, *June* 27, 1777.

ON the 1ſt Inſtant was ſtolen out of my Paſture a YELLOW BAY HORSE 5 or 6 Years old, about 4 Feet 6 Inches high, with a hanging Mane and Switch Tail, his Brand I do not remember, has a remarkable black Streak down his Rump, is a natural Pacer, and when rode paces ſhort and ſhuffling. I will give FIVE DOLLARS to any Perſon who will deliver me the Horſe, or give me ſuch Intelligence ſo that I get him, and FIVE POUNDS for convicting the Thief, if a white Man. (2) RICHARD BLANKS.

BRANCHESTER, *June* 23, 1777.

THOSE who have any juſt Claims againſt the Eſtate of *William Poythreſs*, late of *Prince George* County, deceaſed, are deſired to apply immediately for Payment, as I intend to deliver up the Eſtate in a ſhort Time. (1) PETER POYTHRESS, Executor.

Wanted immediately,

A TUTOR capable of teaching *Latin* and *Greek*. To ſuch a Perſon, well recommended, I will give SIXTY POUNDS a Year, and he ſhall be treated in every Reſpect as one of my Family.

(tf) MANN PAGE.

MANSFIELD, *June* 24, 1777.

To the PUBLIC.

AMELIA County, *June* 20, 1777.

WHEREAS a certain *Ambroſe Jeter* hath ſet forth a Piece dated *June* 3, 1777, charging me with ſelling him a Tract of Land, and not complying with my Bargain, I think it neceſſary to acquaint the Public it is falſe, and that I never was under any Obligation to him for Land or any Thing elſe, but believe he is prompt by ſome ill deſigning People in Order to prejudice the Sale of ſaid Land, which I ſhall demand Satisfaction for when Law is in Force. The Witneſs he intends to make Uſe of is prejudiced againſt me, and I fear will be deluded and led into dangerous Errors. At the ſame Time *Jeter* was treating for the Land he propoſed entering into Writings, but I told him the firſt Writing I ſigned ſhould be a Deed, on receiving ſuch a Sum of Money, for I would be under no Compulſion, nor did I deſire he ſhould be under any. The Court following I ſtill inclined to part with the Land, and offered him a Deed, but he refuſed giving me the Money, unleſs I would put myſelf under ſome Reſtrictions, no Ways pertinent to my Offer, and therefore concluded he did not incline to bargain.

(1) JOHN FORD, Junior.

YORK Town, *June* 30, 1777.

JUST imported, and to be ſold to the higheſt Bidder, at the Subſcriber's Store in this Place, on *Wedneſday* the 16th of *July*, a few Pieces of OSNABRUGS, a Quantity of BARK, IPECACUANHA, JALAP and SALTS. (2) WILLIAM REYNOLDS.

JAMES CITY, *July* 1, 1777.

ALL Perſons indebted to the Eſtate of *Joſeph Jones*, deceaſed, are requeſted to pay off their reſpective Balances immediately; and thoſe who have any Demands againſt the ſaid Eſtate are deſired to bring in their Accounts, properly proved, and they ſhall be adjuſted.

(2) GEORGE HUGHES, Adminiſtrator.

To be SOLD, *on* Monday *the* 4*th Day of* Auguſt *next, at the late Dwelling-Houſe of Col.* FRANCIS EPPES, *of* Dinwiddie *County, deceaſed,*

ALL his perſonal Eſtate, conſiſting of ſeveral valuable Horſes, among which is the beautiful high bred Horſe MERCURY, ſo remarkable for getting fine Colts, a conſiderable Number of good Sheep, a Yoke of Oxen, ſundry Houſehold and Kitchen Furniture, ſeveral exceeding fine Muſkets well fixed, and in good Repair, and many other Articles too tedious to enumerate.--- All Perſons indebted to the Eſtate are deſired to make immediate Payment, or give Bond and Security for their reſpective Balances; and thoſe who have any Demands againſt it are deſired to make them known before or at the Day of Sale, to

(1) THOMAS SCOTT, Adminiſtrator.

WANTED, at *Hunter*'s Iron Works, the Falls of *Rappahannock* River, in the Manufactory of ſmall Arms, a Number of Hands who underſtands the File, alſo Anchor Smiths, Blackſmiths, Nailers, Wire Drawers, Card Makers, File Cutters, Sithe and Sword Cutlers, to whom ſuitable Encouragement will be given; where may be had, for ready Money only, Bar Iron, Fullers Shears, Files, and a Variety of Articles made in the Iron Branch, and where Tradeſmen of every Kind, who incline to ſettle, may have Half Acre Lots of Land at a ſmall Ground Rent for ever, and may be aſſiſted in building, Proviſions, and Materials, and the Produce of their Labour taken in Payment for the ſame. Apply to *John Strode*, Manager of ſaid Works.

*** Negro Tradeſmen in any of the above Branches, alſo Coopers, would be preferred on Purchaſe, for ready Money.

To be ſold, on the 16*th Inſtant,*

A SLOOP,

Now lying at *Smithfield*, Burthen 3000 Buſhels,

With her RIGGING, TACKLE, and APPAREL.

2 MALLORY TODD.

To be SOLD *by the Subſcriber, in* Waller *Street*, Williamſburg, *a large Quantity of* GOODS, *conſiſting of the following Articles,* viz.

BOMBAZEEN, Poplin,
Hat Crape, Womens Clogs,
Mens mourning Buckles,
Girls Satin Shoes, Ribands,
Wine Glaſſes, Beer do. Jelly do.
Necklaces, Sleeve Buttons,
Womens laced Hoods,
Marking Silk, Sewing ditto,
Twiſt of different Colours,
Cruel, Oſnabrugs, Starch,
Coarſe Broadcloths, Needles,
Pocket Pooks, Mens Boots,
Stone Knee Buckles, Womens
Silk Hats of different Colours,
Ladies Fans, Hair Combs,
Childrens Cotton Stockings,
Mens white and black Gloves,
White and coloured Thread,
Enamelled Snuff Boxes, common
ditto, Tobacco ditto,
Knitting Needles, Allſpice,
Black Pepper, Stock Tape,
Mourning Fans, Sifter Bottoms,
Watch Keys and Strings, Tape,
Fiſhing Lines, Lilly's Grammars,
Binding of various Colours,
Prints, plain Gold Rings,
Gilt and plain Buttons,
Shoe Buckles, Hat ditto.
A neat Ink Stand, Saddle Lace,
Stoneware, Bitters,
Pulpit Bruſhes, Pistol Pouch Caſes,
Dutch Ovens, Warming Pans,
Braſs Chafing Dishes, Tea Cheſts,
Tea Boards, and Tea Pots,
Copper Chocolate Pots,
Barbers China ſhaving Baſons,
Queen's China Strawberry Diſhes
and Stands,
Red and white China Diſhes,
Fiſh Kettles, Punch Ladles,
Corkſcrews, Braſs Dog Collars,
Money Scales, Cheeſe Toaſters,
Hinges of different Sorts and Sizes,
Croſs Cut Saws, Hand ditto,
Sets of Coopers Tools,
Augers, Gouges, Grubbing Hoes,
Haſps and Staples, Fire Shovels,
Two-penny Brads, Coal Sifters,
Plaiſtering Trowels,
Paints of various Colours,
Well Chains, Gunpowder, *&c.*
&c. &c. &c.

(tf) AMBROSE DAVENPORT.

TO BE SOLD, and may be entered upon immediately, the Houſes and Lots whereon the Subſcriber now lives in the Town of *York*, on the following Terms, *viz.* £. 300 when Poſſeſſion is given, £. 300 twelve Months after, and £. 300 more twelve Months after that. Bond and Security will be expected for the two laſt Payments, to bear Intereſt from the Date if not punctually diſcharged when due. It is preſumed no One will purchaſe without firſt viewing the Premiſes, it is therefore needleſs to ſay any Thing about them or their Situation.

MATTHEW POPE.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,

TWO Surgeon's Mates for the Regiment of Artillery. Apply to Col. *Harrison* at *Portſmouth*, Lieutenant Colonel *Carrington*, or the Subſcriber at *York*.

J. K. READ.

PHILADELPHIA.

IN CONGRESS, JUNE 16, 1777.

ORDERED, that the letters which have paſſed between General Waſhington and General Howe, on the ſubject of the exchange of priſoners, be publiſhed, and that the ſeveral printers of news-papers throughout the continent be requeſted to inſert them.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'ry.

General Waſhington's of the 19th of April, to which the following is General Howe's anſwer, has been publiſhed ſome time ſince.

GENERAL HOWE to GENERAL WASHINGTON.

SIR, NEW YORK, *April* 21, 1777.

I HAVE received your letter of the 19th inſt. concerning the requiſition of Lieutenant Colonel Walcot, a copy of which came enclоſed.

Though I obſerve that officer has meant to inſiſt very ſtrongly on the juſtice of the claim for the return of priſoners in your poſſeſſion, which was one of the objects of his appointment, I do not ſee reaſon to ſuſpect that any perſonal incivility was intended by the terms in which his opinion is expreſſed.

Without entering into a needleſs diſcuſſion of the candour or illiberality of the ſentiments on which your arguments are founded, yet, ſince you are pleaſed to aſſert, that "the uſage of your priſoners was ſuch as could not be juſtified, that this was proclaimed by the concurrent teſtimony of all who came out, that their appearance ſanctified the aſſertion, and that melancholy experience, in the ſpeedy death of a large part of them, ſtamped it with infallible certainty." Theſe, I ſay, being what you are pleaſed to aſſume as facts, I cannot omit making ſome obſervations upon them.

It might perhaps ſuit with the policy of thoſe who perſiſt in every expedient to cheriſh the popular deluſion; that the releaſed priſoners ſhould complain of ill uſage, or their captivity might really form a grievous compariſon with the ſtate they were in before they were perſuaded to encounter the viciſſitudes of war. But if their ſufferings were as great as you think yourſelf authoriſed to aſſert, a diſpaſſionate conſideration of the following indiſputable and notorious facts will point out the cauſe to which they are to be in a great meaſure aſcribed.

All the priſoners were confined in the moſt airy buildings and on board the largeſt tranſports in the fleet, which were the very healthieſt places of reception that could poſſibly be provided for them.

They were ſupplied with the ſame proviſions, both in quantity and quality, as were allowed to the King's troops not on ſervice, ſome accidental inſtances excepted, wherein however the omiſſion, when known, was immediately remedied.

Near one half of the whole number of priſoners, whoſe diſeaſes appeared to require peculiar care, as well as ſeparation from the reſt, were at different times received into the Britiſh hoſpitals, and their own ſurgeons, without reſtriction ſupplied with medicines for the remaining ſick, until it was diſcovered that they diſputed not to diſpoſe of large quantities by private ſale.

From this ſhort ſtate of facts, it is evident that your priſoners were provided with proper habitations, ſufficient and wholeſome food, and medicines. Nor do I know of any comfort or aſſiſtance, compatible with their ſituation as priſoners, of which they were in want, excepting clothing; the relief to their diſtreſs in this, and the article of money, of which you were repeatedly adviſed, and they had claim to receive from your care, was neglected or refuſed, while they were furniſhed with every other neceſſary I was in a ſituation to ſupply.

To what cauſe the ſpeedy death of a large part of them is to be attributed, I cannot determine, but your own experience will ſuggeſt to you, whether the army under your command, in the courſe of the laſt campaign, was free from ſuch calamitous mortality, though aſſiſted with refreſhments from all parts of the ſurrounding provinces.

It is inſinuated, that I might have releaſed the priſoners before any of the ill conſequences of their detention had taken place. I am obliged to ſay, the event at leaſt appears to have proved the caution with which I ought to have adopted that expedient. The priſoners were ready to be delivered, waiting only for your proceeding in the exchange, which you had propoſed, and I agreed to.

I admit, that able men are not to be required by the party, who, contrary to the laws of humanity, through deſign, or even neglect of reaſonable and practicable care, ſhall have cauſed the debility of the priſoners he ſhall have to offer for exchange; but the argument is not applicable to me in the preſent inſtance.

I might finally put this queſtion: How is the cauſe of debility in priſoners to be aſcertained? But as we differ ſo much in the principle upon which your objections are framed; as I think thoſe objections are unſupported by precedent or equity, and that your adherence to them would be a direct and determined violation of the agreement, it becomes unneceſſary for me to add more, than to call upon you to fulfil the agreement for returning the priſoners demanded by Lieutenant Col. Walcot.

With reſpect to the care of Mr. Lee, now profeſſed to be a principal motive for your refuſal to continue the exchange of priſoners, it is comprehended, I muſt inſiſt, under my general and original exception to perſons in his circumſtances. With due reſpect, I am, Sir, your moſt obedient ſervant,

W. HOWE.

To General George Waſhington, &c. &c.

SIR, NEW YORK, *May* 22. 1777.

NOT having received an anſwer to my letter of the 21ſt of April, I am to requeſt your final deciſion upon the demand I then made of the priſoners in your poſſeſſion, both officers and ſoldiers, in exchange for thoſe I have returned, and for your determination reſpecting the priſoners now here, that I may make my arrangements accordingly.

"It is with concern, I receive frequent accounts of the ill treatment ſtill exerciſed upon Lieutenant Colonel Campbell, which I had reaſon to flatter myſelf you would have prevented. He has, it is true, been taken out of a common dungeon, where he had been confined with a degree of rigour, that the moſt attrocious crimes would not have juſtified, but he is ſtill kept in the gaoler's houſe, expoſed to dailey inſults from the deluded populace. This uſage being repugnant to every ſentiment of humanity, and highly unworthy of the character you profeſs. I am compelled to repeat my complaint againſt it, and to claim immediate redreſs to this much injured Gentleman. With due reſpect, I am, Sir, your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

W. HOWE.

SIR, NEW YORK, *June* 5, 1777.

SO many days having elapſed ſince my letter to you of the 22d of May, was deſpatched, without an anſwer, and leſt by any accident, it ſhould not have gotten to your hands, I am induced to ſend a duplicate thereof, and to preſs my requeſt for your final deciſion, upon the demands therein contained. With due reſpect, I am, Sir, your moſt obedient ſervant,

W. HOWE.

General Waſhington, &c. &.

GENERAL WASHINGTON to GENERAL HOWE.

SIR, MIDDLE BROOK, *June* 10, 1777

YOUR ſeveral letters of the 21ſt of April, 22d of May, and 5th inſtant, have been received.

Having ſtated my ſentiments in an explicit manner, in my letter of the ninth of April, upon the ſubject of your demand, and the diſagreement between us, I thought it unneceſſary to trouble you with a repetition of them. From the complexion of your's of the 21ſt of April, we appeared to differ ſo widely, that I could entertain no hopes of a compromiſe being effected, or that an anſwer would produce any good end.

But as you have called upon me again for my final determination upon the matter, I ſhall freely give it, after making ſome obſervations upon what you have ſaid, with intention to obviate the objections, on my part, to a compliance with your demand through Lieutenant Colonel Walcot.

You admit the principle upon which my objection, to account for the whole number of priſoners ſent out by you, is founded, but deny the application, by delicately inſinuating, in the firſt inſtance, that the ill treatment complained of was an "expedient to cheriſh popular deluſion," and by aſſerting, in the ſecond, that ſuppoſing their ſufferings to have been real, they were to be aſcribed to other cauſes than thoſe aſſigned by me.

I ſhall not undertake to determine on whom the charge of endeavouring to excite popular deluſion falls with moſt propriety; but I cannot forbear intimating, that however ſucceſsful ingenious miſcolourings may be in ſome inſtances, to perplex the underſtanding in matters of ſpeculation, yet it is difficult to perſuade mankind to doubt the evidence of their ſenſes, and the reality of thoſe facts for which they can appeal to them. Unleſs this can be done, permit me to aſſure you, it will always be believed, whatever may be ſuggeſted to the contrary, that men could not be in a more deplorable ſituation than thoſe unhappy ſufferers were, who are the ſubject of our difference. Did I imagine that you, Sir, had any ſerious ſcruples on the occaſion, I might produce, in ſupport of what I have alledged, the ſtrongeſt proofs that human teſtimony can afford.

To prove that the priſoners did not ſuffer from any ill treatment or neglect of yours, you ſay, "they were confined in the moſt airy buildings, and on board the largeſt tranſports in the fleet. That they were ſupplied with the ſame proviſions both in quantity and quality as were allowed to your troops not on ſervice. That the ſick, ſuch of them as required peculiar care, were received into the Britiſh hoſpitals, and the reſt attended by their own ſurgeons, who were ſupplied with medicines without reſtrictions, till it was diſcovered that they diſpoſed of large quantities by private ſale."

The airy buildings were choſen to confine our men in, is a fact I ſhall not diſpute. But whether this was an advantage or not in the winter ſeaſon, I leave you to decide. I am inclined to think it was not, eſpe-

cially as there was a general complaint, that they were deſtitute of fire the greater part of the time, and were only prevented from feeling the inclemency of the weather, in its extremeſt rigour, by their crowded ſituation. This I muſt believe was not very conducive to their health, and if we may judge by compariſon, we muſt conclude, they endured ſimilar inconveniencies on board the tranſports.

As to the ſupplies of proviſions, I know not what they were. My ideas of the matter were drawn from their united teſtimony, confirmed by their appearance, which repreſented the allowance as inſufficient in quantity, bad in quality, and irregularly ſerved. You yourſelf mentioned ſome "accidental circumſtances of omiſſion." I apprehend they were much more frequent than you were apprized of. It may not be improper to obſerve that there is a material difference between perſons confined and deprived of every means of ſubſiſtance in aid of their allowance, and thoſe who are at large, and have other reſources, as is the caſe with your troops not on ſervice, who have the benefit of their pay, and what they can occaſionally gain by their labour. You might alſo find, from inquiry, that we made no diſtinction in our ſupplies between your ſoldiers, priſoners with us, and our own in the field. They were not ſtinted to a ſcanty pittance, but had full as much as they could uſe, and of the beſt kind.

In reſpect to the attention paid to the ſick, I am ſorry their accommodation was injured in any degree by the miſconduct of the ſurgeons. I heartily join with you in reprobating their proceeding, and ſhall eſteem it a favour, if you will point out the perſons, and furniſh me with ſuch proofs of their guilt as you may be poſſeſſed of.

The more effectually to exonerate yourſelf from the conſequences imputed to the neglect or ill treatment of the priſoners, you aſſert they had every comfort and aſſiſtance from you, that your ſituation would admit; and that they wanted nothing but money and clothing, which ought to have been furniſhed by me.

Had we left your priſoners with us to depend entirely upon the ſupplies they drew immediately from you, their condition would have been little better than that of ours, in your hands. Your officers and ſoldiers can both inform you, that they experienced every mark of public and private generoſity that could be ſhewn them; frequent inſtances might be adduced, that on notice of your men being in want, orders were immediately given that neceſſaries ſhould be procured for them. Every thing was done on our part to facilitate any ſteps you took for the ſame end. You were permitted to have an agent among us, countenanced by public authority; and allowed every latitude he could wiſh to enable him to execute his office. I am ſorry to ſay the ſame conduct has not been obſerved towards us, and that there are inſtances to ſhow, that far from endeavouring to remove the difficulties that neceſſarily lay in our way to make ſuch ample ſupplies as we could wiſh, obſtacles have been made, that might very well have been waved. A late inſtance of this is to be found in your refuſing to let us have a procuring agent with you, who might purchaſe what was neceſſary to ſupply the wants of our men. You muſt be ſenſible that for want of a regular mode being adjuſted ſo mutually conveying ſupplies, there was a neceſſity for an exerciſe of generoſity on both ſides. This was done by us, and we ſuppoſed would have been done by you, which made us leſs anxious in providing than we ſhould have been, had we foreſeen what has really happened. We aſcribed every deficiency on your part to the indeterminate ſituation of affairs in this reſpect; and, looking forward to a more provident arrangement of the matter, we thought it our duty not to let the priſoners with us be deſtitute of any thing requiſite for their preſervation; and imagined that your reaſonings and feelings would have been the ſame. Your ſaying we were frequently adviſed of their diſtreſs, is of little avail. It was not done until it was too late to remedy the ill conſequences of the paſt neglect, and till our priſoners were already reduced to a miſerable extremity. I wiſh their ſufferings may not have been increaſed, in the article of clothing, by their being deprived of what they had, through the rapacity of too many of their captors; reports of this kind have not been wanting.

You farther obſerve, that my own experience would ſuggeſt, whether our army, in the courſe of the laſt campaign, was not ſubject to the ſame calamitous mortality with the priſoners in your poſſeſſion. I cannot but confeſs, that there was a great degree of ſickneſs among us; but I can aſſure you, that the mortality bore no kind of reſemblance to that which was experienced by the priſoners with you, and that the diſorders in the camp had nearly ceaſed before the captivity of a large proportion of them. The garriſon that fell into your hands, on the 16th of November, was found, I am convinced, in good health

In reply to my intimation, that it would have been happy if the expedient of ſending out men had been earlier thought of, you are pleaſed to ſay that the event has proved the caution with which you ought to have adopted the meaſure. What inference can be drawn from my refuſing to account for priſoners ſcarcely alive, and by no means in an exchangeable condition, to warrnt an inſinuation that I ſhould have done the ſame, had they been releaſed under different circumſtances, let your own candour determine.

But then you aſk "How is the cauſe of debility in priſoners to be aſcertained?" This ſeems to be conſidered as a perplexing queſtion. For my part, I cannot view it as involving any great difficulty. There is no more familiar mode of reaſoning than from effects to cauſes, even in matters of the moſt intereſting importance. In the ſubject before us, the appearance of the priſoners, and what eventually happend, proved that they had been hardly dealt with; but their joint aſſeverations, aided by the information of others, not intereſted in the diſtreſs more than as they regarded the rights of humanity, eſtabliſhed the fact too firmly for incredulity itſelf to doubt it.

I ſhould hardly believe you to be ſerious in your application of the exception, to which you allude, to the caſe of Major General Lee, if you had not perſiſted in a diſcrimination reſpecting him. I did not entertain the moſt diſtant idea, that he could have been ſuppoſed to come under the deſcription contained in it; and to force ſuch a conſtruction upon that Gentleman's circumſtances, however it may be an evidence of ingenuity, is but an indifferent ſpecimen of candour. I ſtill adhere to what I have already advanced on this head, and can by no means think of departing from it.

I am now to give you my final deciſion on the ſubject of your demands. In doing this I can little more than repeat what I have already ſaid. I am extremely deſirous of a general exchange on liberal and impartial principles; and it is with great concern I find that a matter ſo mutually intereſting is impeded by unneceſſary obſtacles. But I cannot conſent to its taking place on terms ſo diſadvantageous as thoſe you propoſe, and which appear to me ſo contrary to juſtice and the ſpirit of the agreement

I think it proper to declare that I wiſh the differences between us to be adjuſted on a generous and equitable plan, and mean not to avail myſelf of the releaſement of the priſoners, to extort any thing from you not compatible with the ſtricteſt juſtice. Let a reaſonable proportion of priſoners, to be accounted for, be ſettled, and General Lee declared exchangable, when we ſhall have an officer of yours of equal rank in our poſſeſſion, I aſk no more. Theſe being done, I ſhall be happy to proceed to a general exchange. But in the mean time, I am willing that a partial one ſhould take place for the priſoners now in your hands as far as thoſe in ours will extend, except with reſpect to Lieut. Col. Campbell and the Heſſian field officers, who will be detained till you recognize General Lee a priſoner of war, and place him on the footing I claim.

This latter propoſition I am induced to make, from the diſtinction which your letter, of the 22d of May, ſeems to hold forth, and I think it neceſſary to add, that your conduct towards priſoners will govern mine.

The ſituation of Lieut. Col. Campbell, as repreſented to you, is ſuch as I neither wiſhed nor approve. Upon the firſt intimation of his complaints, I wrote upon the ſubject, and hoped there would have been no further cauſe of uneaſineſs. That Gentleman, I am perſuaded, will do me the juſtice to ſay, he has received no ill treatment at my inſtance. Unneceſſary ſeverity and every ſpecies of inſult I deſpiſe, I truſt, none will ever have juſt reaſon to cenſure me in this reſpect. I have written again on your remonſtrance, and have no doubt ſuch a line of conduct will be adopted, as will be conſiſtent with the dictates of humanity, and agreeable to both his and your wiſhes, I am, Sir, with due reſpect,

Your moſt obedient ſervant,

G. WASHINGTON.

His Excellency General Sir William Howe.

BALTIMORE, *June*. 24.

Extract of a letter from PHILADELPHIA, *June* 21.

BY an expreſs juſt arrived here from the eaſtward, we are informed, that there is a prize brought into Salem, with 4000 blankets, &c. &c. which is very favourable for us at preſent; alſo another arrived in an eaſtern port with 84 Heſſians on board, only ſix days out, being part of a *vaſt* reinforcement of 600 men coming to aſſiſt *half ſtarved* Howe, to do what he is ſure himſelf cannot be done. The Heſſians after they were taken mounted guard over their *own* officers, and was very happy they were ſo fortunate as to be taken. As there are many of our privateers in purſuit of them, we expect ſoon to hear of the whole fleet being taken."

The enemy retreated from Somerſet courthouſe to Brunſwick, deſtroying houſes, mills, grain, and committing other exceſſes, on their way.

Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, *dated* June 24.

"We have certain accounts of the enemy's main body getting to Amboy, and throwing the bridge they intended laſt winter for the Delaware acroſs the Sound, in order, it is thought, to get over to Staten Iſland, if they can. A number of our army is ſurrounding their advance guard, which is about four miles out. I think we ſhall give them a check this time. I give you joy on having poſſeſſion of Brunſwick once more, am in hopes we ſhall do very well yet."

WILLIAMSBURG, *July* 4.

LAST Saturday the General Aſſembly adjourned to the 3d Monday in October next, after paſſing the following acts.

ACTS *paſſed at a* GENERAL ASSEMBLY, *begun and held at the Capitol in the City of Williamſburg, on Monday the 5th of* MAY, 1777.

AN act for regulating and diſciplining the militia.

2. An act for the more ſpeedily completing the quota of troops to be raiſed in this Commonwealth for the continental army, and for other purpoſes.

3. An act to oblige the free male inhabitants of this State, above a certain age, to give aſſurance of allegiance to the ſame, and for other purpoſes.

4. An act for eſtabliſhing a loan office for the purpoſe of borrowing money for the uſe of the United States, and appointing a commiſſioner for ſuperintending the ſame.

5. An act for eſtabliſhing an office for the purpoſe of borrowing money for the uſe of this Commonwealth.

6. An act to diſcourage deſertion, and to puniſh perſons harbouring or entertaining deſerters.

7. An act for providing againſt invaſions and inſurrections.

8. An act limiting the time for continuing the Delegates to General Congreſs in office, and making proviſion for their ſupport, and for other purpoſes.

9. An act to eſtabliſh a mode for the ſpeedy and ſummary recovery of ſuch ſums of money as are or may become due to the public, and for enforcing all contracts entered into with Government.

10. An act to ſupport the credit of the money iſſued by authority of Congreſs, and by authority of this Commonwealth, and to make the former current within this Commonwealth.

11. An act for preventing the forgery of certain warrants and certificates, and other purpoſes.

12. An act for the encouragement of iron works.

13. An act for appointing commiſſioners of Oyer and Terminer, for the trial of the criminals now in the public gaol, and for other purpoſes.

14. An act for further continuing an act entitled "An act for the further continuance of certain powers given to the Governor and Council by an ordinance of the laſt Convention, and for other purpoſes."

15. An act for encouraging the making of ſalt.

16. An act for further ſuſpending the payment of the ſalaries heretofore given to the clergy of the Church of England.

17. An act for regulating and diſciplining the militia of the city of Williamſburg and borough of Norfolk.

18. An act for the more regular laying of the borough of Norfolk.

19. An act to confirm the Kentucky election.

20. An act for diſſolving the veſtries of ſeveral pariſhes.

21. An act to empower the veſtry of the pariſh of Botetourt to diſpoſe of their glebe, for diſſolving the ſaid veſtry, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

22. An act for confirming a codicil annexed to the laſt will and teſtament of John Barr, deceaſed, reſpecting certain ſlaves.

23. An act to permit the truſtees of the academy of Hampden-Sidney, in the county of Prince Edward, to raiſe a ſum of money by lottery, for certain purpoſes.

24. An act for dividing the county of Cumberland.

25. An act for dividing the county of Albemarle and pariſh of Saint Anne.

26. An act for adding part of the county of Charlotte, and pariſh of Cornwall, to the county of Lunenburg and pariſh of Cumberland.

27. An act for appointing commiſſioners to inquire into and aſcertain the loſſes ſuſtained by the late inhabitants of the borough of Norfolk.

28. An act for altering the bounds of the counties of Montgomery and Washington.

29. An act to amend an act entitled "An act for reviving ſeveral public warehouſes for the reception of tobacco, and for other purpoſes."

30. An act to eſtabliſh ſeveral new ferries, and for diſcontinuing others.

An ACT *for the more ſpeedily completing the* QUOTA *of* TROOPS *to be raiſed in this Commonwealth for the continental army, and for other purpoſes.*

WHEREAS it is of the greateſt moment to the cauſe of America that the continental army be ſpeedily completed, *BE it therefore enacted by the General Aſſembly*, that any two of the militia of any county, city, or borough, who ſhall, before the firſt day of October next, procure one able bodied ſoldier, other than an apprentice or ſervant, within the time of his enliſtment or indenture, and thoſe employed in the public manufactories of fire arms, to ſerve for the term of three years, or during the preſent war, in either of the firſt nine battalions raiſed within this Commonwealth, and ſhall deliver ſuch recruit to any officer in one of the ſaid battalions, taking his receipt, which ſuch officer is hereby required to grant, and alſo procuring the certificate of the juſtice before whom ſuch recruit ſhall be ſworn, ſhall be exempted from all draughts whatever, and from attending private and general muſters in the reſpective militia to which they belong, which exemption ſhall continue during the term for which ſuch recruit ſhall be enliſted; and the recruit ſo enliſted ſhall be entitled to, and receive the continental bounty, and other allowances, over and above all private gratuities: *Provided*, that that the number of ſoldiers ſo enliſted ſhall not exceed the twentieth part of the militia of each county, city, or borough, within this Commonwealth.

AND be it further enacted, that it ſhall be lawful for every recruiting officer to enliſt all able bodied young men above the age of ſixteen years, any apprentice or ſervant, except hired ſervants, under written contracts, at any iron works, and thoſe employed in the public manufactory of fire arms, during the time of ſuch contracts, and alſo all apprentices at ſuch works, ~~during the time of ſervice~~, legally due by indenture, without leave, in writing, from the owner, or his manager at ſaid works, firſt obtained, except likewiſe every imported ſervant; and that the perſons of all ſoldiers whatever in the ſervice of the continent, or of this Commonwealth, ſhall be free and exempt from all arreſts and reſtraints whatever, for any debt or demand not exceeding fifty dollars, or the value thereof. And if any ſoldier ſhall be arreſted or reſtrained of his liberty, contrary to the directions of this act, it ſhall be lawful for any juſtice of the peace, upon complaint to him made by warrant, under his hand and ſeal, to order ſuch ſoldier to be forthwith diſcharged from his confinement; and if any civil officer ſhall keep in confinement, or detain in his cuſtody, any ſuch ſoldier for the ſpace of two hours after receipt of ſuch warrant, he ſhall forfeit and pay to ſuch ſoldier the ſum of fifteen pounds, to be by him recovered, with coſts, by action of debt or on the caſe, in any court of record. And to prevent a ſoldier's being unjuſtly detained, it ſhall not be lawful for the clerk of any county, or other inferior court, to iſſue a writ againſt any ſuch ſoldier until the plaintiff hath made oath to the juſtneſs of the demand, and that the debt was contracted prior to the enliſtment of ſuch ſoldier, a certificate of which affidavit ſhall be endorſed on the back of the writ.

AND be it further enacted, that all ſoldiers in the ſervice of this Commonwealth, who have, by the terms of their enliſtments, engaged to ſerve for one year, and received one part of the bounty money only, ſhall be retained in the ſervice until the expiration of the time for which they enliſted.

AND whereas, by an act of the laſt Aſſembly, by which ſix additional battalions were directed to be raiſed within this Commonwealth, towards completing its quota of the continental army, the ſeveral proportions of men to be furniſhed by each county, city, and borough, were fixed as equally as could be, according to the numbers of their reſpective militias, and many officers have failed to enliſt the quota to them reſpectively alloted, and notwithſtanding the various encouragements formerly given, and now offered by this act, it may happen that the deficiencies will not be ſupplied in time, ſo that at length it may become neceſſary, for the defence and ſecurity of this and the other States, that a juſt and equal draught of men ſhould ſpeedily take place:

BE it therefore enacted, that for the more ſpeedy and certain completion of the ſaid ſix new battalions, every county, city, and borough, except the counties of Kentucky, Ohio, Monongalia, and Yohogania, in caſe the officer or officers by them appointed, or to be appointed, have not already, or ſhall not, on or before the tenth day of Auguſt next, enliſt the quota of men alloted to ſuch officer or officers, ſhall make up ſuch deficiency by draughts, to be taken from the reſpective militias in manner following, that is to ſay: The county Lieutenant, or other commanding officer, ſo ſoon as conveniently may be, after the ſaid tenth day of Auguſt, ſhall ſummon the field officers of their reſpective militias, and the four firſt magiſtrates in the commiſſion of the peace, not being field officers, and, together with the ſaid field officers, or any two of them, and the ſaid magiſtrates, or any two of them, having firſt taken an oath, to be adminiſtered by any juſtice of the peace, faithfully and impartially to make the allotments and diviſions of the militia as directed by this act, ſhall firſt aſcertain the aforeſaid deficiency in their reſpective county, city, or borough, and immediately proceed to divide the whole militia of each county, city, and borough, including Captains and other inferior officers, into as many lots as there may be men wanting to ſupply their quota, including the field officers and the four eldeſt magiſtrates in the commiſſion of the peace, who ſhall be conſidered as one of the diviſions, taking care to allot to each diviſion, other than that compoſed of the field officers and magiſtrates, as many able bodied men as conveniency will admit, having regard to the property of each individual compoſing ſuch diviſions, ſo as to make the number of able bodied men, and the property in each, as near as may be; that each of the ſaid other diviſions ſhall be required to

furniſh one man; and in caſe any ſuch diviſion refuſe, or neglect to do ſo in fifteen days, that then the field officers and magiſtrates, as aforeſaid, having made themſelves acquainted with the ſituation and circumſtances of each diviſion, ſhall meet at ſuch convenient place as they ſhall appoint, and having firſt taken an oath, to be adminiſtered by any juſtice of the peace, to act with impartiality, ſhall fix upon and draught one man, who, in their opinion, can be beſt ſpared, and will be moſt ſerviceable, from the diviſion ſo refuſing or neglecting; and the ſaid field officers and magiſtrates, for their diviſion, ſhall either procure an able bodied man to enliſt, or, in default thereof, ſhall each of them pay the ſum of fifty ſhillings, as an additional bounty to any able bodied man whom the officer appointed to recruit for the deficiency in ſuch county may procure to enliſt for the ſaid field officers and magiſtrates; and the perſon ſo furniſhed or draughted ſhall, to all intents and purpoſes, be conſidered as a regular ſoldier, ſhall receive the ſame bounty, and other allowances, over and above all private gratuities, remain in the ſervice three years, if the war ſhould ſo long continue, and be ſubject to the ſame penalties for deſertion and other offences as if he had voluntarily enliſted, unleſs he ſhall procure an able bodied man to ſerve in his room

PROVIDED, that where it may be neceſſary to make draughts from any county divided, this preſent ſeſſion of Aſſembly, the field officers and magiſtrates, as aforeſaid, in each county, ſhall proceed in the manner before directed, but the draughts neceſſary to make up the deficiency of the county, when entire, ſhall be proportioned to the number of militia remaining in each diſtinct county; and every commanding officer failing to ſummon the field officers and magiſtrates, as before directed, ſhall forfeit and pay five hundred pounds, and every field officer and magiſtrate failing to attend, as before directed, ſhall for each failure, without a ſufficient excuſe, forfeit and pay the ſum of one hundred pounds, to be recovered, with coſts, in the court of the county where ſuch delinquent reſides, by action of debt, or information of any perſon ſuing for the ſame, one moiety to be appropriated to the uſe of the perſon ſuing, and the other moiety to the uſe of this Commonwealth, over and above the fines already impoſed by the militia and invaſion laws.

AND whereas, for the better garriſoning the ſeveral fortifications, and for the further defence of this State, it is expedient and neceſſary that ſome other proviſion ſhould be made: *BE it enacted*, that a battalion of ten companies of artillery, one company of which to be compoſed of artificers, ſhall forthwith be raiſed, each company to conſiſt of one Captain, three Lieutenants, one ſerjeant, four Bombardiers, eight gunners, and fifty ſix matroſſes, to be commanded by one Colonel, one Lieutenant Colonel, and one Major, to be appointed by joint ballot of both Houſes of Aſſembly, and commiſſioned by the Governor; the Captains and Lieutenants to be appointed by the Governor, with the advice of the Privy Council, and commiſſioned by the Governor; the ſerjeants, bombardiers, and gunners, by the Colonels. To this battalion there ſhall be allowed a chaplain, ſurgeon, and one or two ſurgeon's mates, as need may require; the chaplain and ſurgeon to be appointed by the field officers and Captains, and the ſurgeon's mates by the ſurgeon himſelf. There ſhall be allowed as pay, beſides cuſtomary rations, to a Colonel two dollars and an half, to a Lieutenant Colonel two dollars, to a Major one dollar and two thirds, to a Captain one dollar and one third, to a Lieutenant one dollar, to a ſerjeant two thirds of a dollar, to a bombardier one half of a dollar, to a gunner one third and one twelfth of a dollar, and to each matroſs not being an artificer, one third of a dollar, and if an artificer two thirds of a dollar, to the chaplain a dollar and one third, to the ſurgeon a dollar and two thirds, and to a ſurgeon's mate one dollar, per day. Each private ſhall be entitled to, and receive the ſame bounty, and other allowances, as the ſoldiers in the other Commonwealth battalions are entitled to. The Captains and inferior officers ſhall enliſt their men in the ſame proportions, and in caſe of failure or neglect be ſubject to removal, at the diſcretion of the Governor and Council; the companies to be reviewed, their rank eſtabliſhed in the ſame manner, and at the ſame time, as is directed in the other battalions, and their pay commence from the time of completing their reſpective proportions; the pay of the Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel, and Major, ſhall commence ſo ſoon as they ſhall be called into ſervice, and receive their reſpective commiſſions.

AND to defray the expence of recruiting, *BE it enacted*, that every officer ſhall receive the ſum of forty ſhillings for every recruit he ſhall enliſt.

AND be it further enacted, that the ſeveral county courts may, and they are hereby required, to provide at the public expence, proviſions and all other neceſſaries for the ſupport and comfortable ſubſiſtence of the wives, children, and aged parents, of all poor ſoldiers who cannot by their own induſtry ſupport themſelves during their abſence from home in the public ſervice, and for paying of the ſame may draw upon the treaſurer for the time being, who is hereby required to pay for the ſame out of the public money in his hands.

AND be it enacted, that all ſoldiers who have already enliſted, or ſhall hereafter enliſt, into either of the battalions of this Commonwealth, ſhall, for their further encouragement, be ſupplied out of the public ſtore with ſuch clothing and other neceſſaries as it will afford, and their commanding officers may direct, at the prime coſt thereof, without any advance whatever.

AND whereas the county of Warwick was omitted in the allotment of the proportion or quota of men to be furniſhed by each county towards raiſing and completing the ſix laſt continental battalions, and the county of Elizabeth City was directed to raiſe an Enſign and ten men, which, from the expoſed ſituation of the county laſt mentioned, is an over proportion: *BE it further enacted*, that the ſaid county of Warwick ſhall furniſh four men of the quota to be raiſed by Elizabeth City, in manner as is by this act directed.

AND be it further enacted, that when it ſhall be found neceſſary to march the battalion of artillery to be raiſed by virtue of this act to the aſſiſtance of any other State, the pay of the officers and ſoldiers of the ſaid battalion ſhall be equal to the pay of artillery officers and ſoldiers in the continental ſervice, ſo long as they continue in that ſervice.

AND whereas ſeveral Negro ſlaves have deſerted from their maſters, and under pretence of being free men have enliſted as ſoldiers: For prevention whereof, *BE it enacted*, that it ſhall not be lawful for any recruiting officer within this Commonwealth to enliſt any Negro or mulatto into the ſervice of this or either of the United States untill ſuch Negro or mulatto ſhall produce a certificate from ſome juſtice of the peace for the county wherein he reſides that he is a free man.

An act to oblige the FREE MALE INHABITANTS *of this State, above a certain age, to give aſſurance of allegiance to the ſame, and for other purpoſes.*

WHEREAS allegiance and protection are reciprocal, and thoſe who will not bear the former are not entitled to the benefits of the latter, *Therefore, Be it enacted by the General Aſſembly*, that all free born male inhabitants of this State, above the age of ſixteen years, except imported ſervants, during the time of their ſervice, ſhall, on or before the tenth day of October next, take and ſubſcribe the following oath or affirmation before ſome one of the juſtices of the peace of the county, city, or borough, where they ſhall reſpectively inhabit; and the ſaid juſtice ſhall give a certificate thereof to every ſuch perſon, and the ſaid oath or affirmation ſhall be as followeth, viz. *I do ſwear, or affirm, that I renounce and refuſe all allegiance to* George III. *King of* Great Britain, *his heirs, and ſucceſſours, and that I will be faithful, and bear true allegiance to the Commonwealth of* Virginia, *as a free and independent State, and that I will not at any time, do, or cauſe to be done, any matter or thing that will be prejudicial or injurious to the freedom and independence thereof, as declared by Congreſs, and alſo that I will diſcover and make known to ſome one juſtice of the peace of the ſaid State, all treaſons or traiterous conſpiracies, which I know or hereafter ſhall know to be formed againſt this or any of the United States of America*; and the form of the ſaid certificate ſhall be as follows, to wit, *I do hereby certify, that hath taken and ſubſcribed the oath or affirmation of allegiance and fidelity as directed by an act of General Aſſembly, entitled an act to oblige the free male inhabitants of this State, above a certain age, to give aſſurance of allegiance to the ſame, and for other purpoſes. Witneſs my hand and ſeal, this Day of* A. B.

AND be it further enacted, that the juſtice of the peace before whom ſuch oath or affirmation ſhall be ſubſcribed, ſhall keep fair regiſters of the names of the perſons ſo ſworn or affirmed, and the time when; and ſhall, on or before the firſt day of January, in every year, tranſmit in writing, under his hand and ſeal, to the clerk of the court of the county, city, or borough, a true liſt of the names of thoſe, who within the ſame year have ſo ſworn or affirmed before them reſpectively.

AND be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, that within one month after the paſſing of this act, or at the next ſucceeding court, the court of every county in this Commonwealth ſhall appoint ſome of their members to make a tour of the county, and tender the oath or affirmation aforeſaid, to every free born male perſon above the age of ſixteen years, except as before excepted; and that in the certificate directed to be returned of thoſe who take the oath or affirmation, ſhall be mentioned the names of ſuch as refuſe; and the juſtices tendering ſuch oath or affirmation, are hereby directed to deliver a liſt of the names of ſuch recuſants to the county Lieutenant, or chief commanding officer of the militia, who is hereby authoriſed and directed forthwith to cauſe ſuch recuſants to be diſarmed: *PROVIDED*, that the perſons ſo diſarmed ſhall nevertheleſs be obliged to attend muſters, but ſhall be exempted from the fines impoſed for appearing at muſters without arms, accoutrements, and ammuniti n.

And be it further enacted, that every perſon above the age before mentioned, except as before excepted, refuſing and neglecting to take and ſubſcribe the oath or affirmation aforeſaid, ſhall, during the time of ſuch

neglect or refuſal, be incapable of holding an office in this State, ſerving on juries, ſuing for any debts, electing, or being elected, or buying lands, tenements, or hereditaments.

AND be it further enacted, that all perſons coming from any of the other United States into this State, are hereby required to apply to one of the neareſt juſtices after he enters this State, and take or ſubſcribe an oath or affirmation, renouncing all allegiance to the King of Great Britain, and promiſing that he will not do any thing prejudicial to the independence of the United States of America, as declared by the General Congreſs; and upon neglecting ſo to do, he ſhall be liable to be taken before a juſtice, who ſhall tender him the ſaid oath or affirmation, and upon his refuſal to take and ſubſcribe the ſame, the ſaid juſtice ſhall, and is hereby required to commit him to the gaol of the county, city, or borough, there to remain without bail or mainprize, until he ſhall take and ſubſcribe the ſaid oath or affirmation, or give bond and ſecurity, immediately to depart this Commonwealth, which bond ſhall be payable to the Governor for the time being, for the uſe of this Commonwealth.

PROVIDED nevertheleſs, that priſoners of war, regular officers, and ſoldiers, in the pay of the continent, or of this State, merchants and mariners, trading in the ports of this State from foreign powers, in amity with the United States, and not become reſident, are declared not to be within the intent and meaning of this act.

AND be it further enacted, that this act ſhall be publicly read by the ſheriff of every county in this Commonwealth, at the door of the court-houſe of his county on ſome court day, on or before the firſt day of September next, and alſo by every miniſter of the Goſpel, or reader, immediately after divine ſervice, at every church or meeting-houſe, where they officiate, on ſome Sunday within the ſaid time; and every ſheriff, miniſter, or reader, failing ſo to do, ſhall forfeit and pay the ſum of ten pounds; to be recovered with coſts, by the informer, before the court of the county where the offence ſhall be committed.

An act to ſupport the credit of the money iſſued by authority of Congreſs, and by authority of this Commonwealth, and to make the former current within this Commonwealth.

WHEREAS the continental money, and the money of this Commonwealth, ought to be ſupported at the full value expreſſed in the reſpective bills, and the pernicious artifices of the enemies of American liberty, to impair the credit of the ſaid bills, by raiſing the nominal value of gold and ſilver, or any other ſpecies of money whatſoever, ought to guarded againſt and prevented.

BE it enacted by the General Aſſembly, that all bills of credit emitted by authority of Congreſs, ſhall paſs current in all payments, trade, and dealings within this Commonwealth, and be deemed equal to the ſame nominal ſum in Spaniſh milled dollars; and that whoſoever ſhall offer, aſk, or receive more in the ſaid bills, or in the bills of credit emitted by authority of this Commonwealth, for any gold or ſilver coins, or any other ſpecies of money whatſoever, than the nominal ſum or amount thereof in Spaniſh milled dollars, or more in either of the ſaid kinds of money, for any lands, goods, or commodities whatſoever, than the ſame could be purchaſed at of the ſame perſon or perſons in gold or ſilver, or any other ſpecies of money whatſoever, or ſhall offer to ſell any goods or commodities for gold or ſilver coins, or any other ſpecies of money whatſoever, and refuſe to ſell the ſame for either the ſaid continental bills, or bills of this Commonwealth, every ſuch perſon ſhall forfeit the value of the money ſo exchanged, or of the houſe, land, or commodity ſo ſold or offered for ſale, to be recovered with coſts, by action of debt, in any court of record, the one moiety to the uſe of the perſon ſuing for the ſame, and the other moiety to the uſe of this Commonwealth.

AND be it further enacted, that the bills of credit iſſued by Congreſs ſhall be a lawful tender in payment of all public and private debts within this Commonwealth, and a tender and refuſal thereof, or of the bills of credit iſſued by authority of this Commonwealth, ſhall operate as an extinguiſhment of intereſt from the time of ſuch tender; and that debts payable in ſterling ſhall be diſcharged with either of the above kinds of money, at the rate of thirty three and one third *per centum* exchange, and that the continental dollars, and dollars iſſued by this Commonwealth, ſhall paſs in diſcharge of all debts and contracts at the rate of ſix ſhillings currency per dollar.

AND whereas many ſums of money are now due and owing upon bills, bonds, and proteſted bills of exchange, to many perſons, who, to avoid the force of a tender, and avail themſelves of the intereſt, do put or place the ſaid ſpecialties into the hands of perſons not authoriſed to receive the money due thereupon, for remedy whereof, *BE it enacted*, that a tender in any money, made current here, to any perſon having, or being poſſeſſed of any bill, bond, or proteſted bill of exchange, the principal and all intereſt due thereon by the perſon or perſons owning the ſame, ſhall be a legal tender, and upon a refuſal, ſhall be an extinguiſhment of the intereſt, or where the debtor cannot diſcover who hath the poſſeſſion of the ſpecialty, by which he or ſhe ſtands indebted, a tender of the principal and intereſt to the factor with whom the debt was contracted, ſhall, in like manner, avail ſuch debtor and extinguiſh the intereſt.

An Act for regulating and diſciplining the Williamſburg Militia.

FOR forming the citizens of Williamſburg, and borough of Norfolk, and the profeſſors and ſtudents of William and Mary college, into a militia, and better diſciplining them: *BE it enacted by the General Aſſembly*, that all male perſons between the ages of ſixteen and fifty years, within the limits of the ſaid city and borough, except the perſons exempted by an act paſſed this preſent General Aſſembly, entitled "An act for regulating and diſciplining the militia;" and ſuch of the profeſſors and ſtudents of William and Mary college as would otherwiſe be part of the militia of James City county, in which the college is ſituate, ſhall, by the commanding officers of the ſaid city and borough, be enrolled and formed into companies of not leſs than thirty two nor more than ſixty eight rank and file; and each company ſhall be commanded by a Captain, two Lieutenants, and an Enſign, and the whole by a Colonel and Major, who ſhall reſide within the ſaid city, or ſhall be a freeholder of the ſaid borough; and before they enter upon the execution of their office ſhall take the following oath: *I* , *do ſwear, that I will be faithful and true to the Commonwealth of* Virginia, *of which I profeſs myſelf to be a citizen, and that I will faithfully and juſtly execute the office of* , *in the militia of* , *according to the beſt of my ſkill and knowledge. So help me* GOD.

AND the the militia of ſaid city and borough, with the profeſſors and ſtudents of the ſaid college, ſhall be muſtered, trained, and employed at the ſame times and in the ſame manner; and the officers and privates reſpectively ſhall be armed with the ſame weapons, and be ſubject to the ſame orders, regulations, and penalties, as the militia of a county; and the officers and privates thereof are, and ought to be by the before-mentioned act, and by another act alſo, paſſed this preſent General Aſſembly, entitled "An act for providing againſt invaſions and inſurrections;" and all former acts and ordinances relating to the militia of the ſaid city and borough are declared to be repealed.

A letter of a late date, from an officer at camp, mentions, that ſome of the Britiſh officers, upon their retreat from Brunſwick, were heard to ſay, it was all over with them; that there was a packet juſt arrived from England giving an account of great diſturbances there; that the citizens of London and the King's guards had been engaged ten days; and that there was a proſpect of great commotions throughout the kingdom. The ſame letter ſays, the American affairs never wore ſo favourable an aſpect as at preſent.

On Sunday the 29th ult. died, after a lingering illneſs, which he bore with great Chriſtian fortitude, Mr. MATTHEW DAVENPORT of this city, at Mr. Haldenby Dixon's in Hanover, where he was invited for the recovery of his health.

LONDON, *April* 3.

THE defeat of the Heſſians at Trenton, was primarily owing to a diſpute which ſubſiſted between the Engliſh and the German troops. Col. Rhall, apprehending he ſhould be attacked by ſuperior numbers, required of Lord Cornwallis a reinforcement. Two regiments under Col. Grant, were detached for the purpoſe. The Engliſh troops ſhewed a reluctance to aſſiſt the Heſſians. They halted for a few hours, during which interval Col. Rhall was defeated.

The diſputes between the Engliſh and Heſſian troops, originated from the following incident: An officer of the regiment of Loſburg, engaged ſome Engliſh officers at Princeton, in a converſation reſpecting military diſcipline. An Engliſh officer, whether heated by liquor, or irraſcible through paſſion, replied to the German by throwing a punch bowl at his head. The inſult was properly reſented. But the ſeeds of diſcord being thus unhappily ſown, a crop of evils enſued. The private men, adopting the quarrels of their officers, indulged themſelves in frequent rencounters.

If we credit the tale-bearers of the Miniſtry, the defeat of the Heſſians at Trenton, is to be aſcribed to the drunkenneſs of Col. Rhall. Lord Weymouth is the beſt judge whether there is any virtue in ſuch a palliative.

There is ſomething very ominous in the diſeaſe of Lord North. He was ſeized with a ſudden ſtoppage of the circulation. Should a diſaſter of the kind affect our paper currency, the death of the body-politic, would inevitably follow.

April 8. A private letter received from Lisbon brings advice, that an American privateer of 20 guns had put into the Tagus, but was ordered to depart immediately, which ſhe did; and the next day, off the Rock

of Lisbon, fell in with two stout Portuguese merchantmen, which the privateer made prizes of, and carried with her.

Extract of a letter from Corke, *March* 13.

"Several transports arrived this morning from New York, and we are informed that General Howe was preparing for an expedition against South Carolina, when they left New York five weeks ago: The land forces are to be commanded by Lord Percy, with the Brigadiers Grant and Maitland, and the fleet by Sir Peter Parker; after this embarkation, which is to consist of 6000 men, takes place, General Howe will have 20,000 men at New York and the Jerseys, which is deemed more than sufficient to defeat any attempts of Washington, whose force was about 12,000 the beginning of last month."

BOSTON, *June* 12.

FRIDAY last arrived at a safe port the snow Sally, a prize taken by Capt Harreden in the brig Tyrannicide, belonging to this State, having on board a variety of European goods, among which are 3 or 4000 blankets. This vessel, with the Intrepid, Salisbury, Janet, and Anne, were loaded by a merchant in London, and sailed in company, with their cargoes amounting to 22,000l. and consigned to a merchant in Quebec. We hope Capt. Harreden will meet with the other three vessels, as we understand he was in pursuit of them when the prize master left him. The Sally's cargo amount to near 6000l. sterling, and in articles as beneficial for the States of America, as for Carleton or any British subjects at Quebec.

We also learn that Capt Harreden has taken a transport bound from Ireland for New York, with 63 Hessian soldiers on board, which may be hourly expected.

Capt. Fisk in the the Massachusetts, has likewise taken a ship with 84 Hessians on board, which are arrived in a safe port. These two transports were part of a fleet of 14 sail, under convoy of two frigates, with about 600 recruits, which sailed from Ireland about the 10th of May, and possibly have arrived about this time, and no doubt we shall receive a pompous account from Gain's lying Gazette of a reinforcement of as many thousands as there are hundreds. Nine sail of transports sailed for Quebec with troops, making up, we hear, in the whole 1500 men.

The following letter was received by a Gentleman in CAMBRIDGE, *from a person of character and veracity in a town on the frontiers of the State of* NEW HAMPSHIRE, *about* 140 *miles from fort* ST. JOHN'S *in* CANADA, *viz.*

"CORNISH, *Haverhill, June* 2, 1777.

"ONE of our scouting parties is returned from Canada this day with several Frenchmen, who report, that there are about 300 men of the British army stationed at the Isle au Noix, 200 at St. John's, and 30 only at Chamblee; a number of others quartered up and down through the country, to keep the Canadians in order, who very generally refuse to take up arms; some of them suffer imprisonment rather than enter the English service. The Indians too, have determined not to take up arms against the Americans; they have dispersed and gone to their homes. General Burgoyne arrived at Quebec the 10th of May, but without recruits; he tells them there are 30 sail of transports coming after him. The Hessian and British soldiery have been very sickly, near half of them dead out of 7000 men, and the rest refuse going out of garrison to fight, alledging their times are out. Two regiments were lately marched for Quebec, and another going. It is supposed they have some expectation of a French fleet coming up the river St. Lawrence. These are favourable circumstances, and believe they may be depended upon."

The British pirate frigate Milford, after a wearisome struggle of fourteen days, got the continental brig Cabot (which was mentioned to have run ashore on Jebogo rocks, Nova Scotia, some time since) off, and sent her to Halifax, where she arrived, and is now fitting out with the greatest expedition for sea; to be commanded, as we hear, by the first Lieutenant of the Milford. On her arrival at Halifax, there was a day of general rejoicing; guns firing, drums beating, colours displayed; and the good, loyal, runaway Tories (from this town) who remain there, were congratulating each other on the glorious *(as they say)* acquisition. *Deluded creatures!* They think the fate of America depends on a single brig. Were they to capture the 13 frigates fitted out by this continent, they could not have exulted more.

Last Friday a company of the American artillery, under the command of David Allen, Esq; set off from this town for General Washington's head quarters.

PHILADELPHIA, *June* 24.

Extract of a letter from General WASHINGTON *to Congress, dated* MIDDLE BROOK, *June* 20, 1777.

"WHEN I had the honour of addressing you last, I informed you that the main body of the enemy had marched from Brunswick, and extended their van as far as Somerset Courthouse. I am now to acquaint you, that after encamping between these two posts, and beginning a line of redoubts, they changed their ground yesterday morning in and the course of the preceding night, and returned to Brunswick again, burning as they went several valuable dwelling-houses.

"I must observe, and with peculiar satisfaction I do it, that on the first notice of the enemy's movements the militia assembled in the most spirited manner, firmly determined to give them every annoyance in their power, and to afford us every possible aid. This I thought it my duty to mention, in justice to their conduct; and I am inclined to believe that General Howe's return, thus suddenly made, must have been in consequence of the information he received that the people were in and flying to arms in every quarter to oppose him."

Published by order of Congress.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'ry.

By an express arrived yesterday afternoon from New Jersey, we have the important intelligence of the enemy's having retreated from Somerset courthouse to Brunswick, and were on their march to that place towards Amboy, burning and destroying many valuable houses on their way, and exercising their usual barbarity to the inhabitants in their power. That a part of our army had taken possession of Brunswick, while a large number were in pursuit of the enemy, and had engaged some of their rear guards. No particular accounts are yet come to hand, but the following letter (received by the above express) though imperfect, will serve to convey some idea of the manner of their retreat.

"*Camp at* MIDDLE BROOK, *evening* 22*d of June*, 1777.

"OUR troops were within a mile or less of the bridge at Brunswick when General Howe with a party passed from that place. Gen. Wayne with his brigade pushed the enemy so close that they retired from redoubt to redoubt, without having time to form. All the troops, that came up, pushed forward with vigour; and had those the west side of Raritan been so lucky as to have come up at the same instant, the stroke must have been capital. The enemy seem to retire to Amboy in haste. They were pushed to Piscataway by Col. Morgan's riflemen (a fine corps) and the troops under General Green, and must have suffered considerably. Our loss is 3 or 4 men killed, and as many wounded. They have burnt numbers of houses, and their whole recollections show what they suffered last winter. Indeed their waste exceeds all I could fancy, [illegible] often described to me. They have lost [illegible] dispirited; their plans subverted; a vast [illegible] and of course one half of the [illegible] lost [illegible] good health, high spirits, and ready [illegible]

A Quantity of excellent

STEEL,

AND A PARCEL OF

NEEDLES,

To be sold, WHOLESALE and RETAIL, at *William Goodson*'s Store, in *Williamsburg*.

PALACE Street, *July* 2, 1777.

MRS. NEILL is now in *Williamsburg*, where she purposes teaching the GUITAR at one Guinea Entrance, and one Guinea for eight Lessons. She will also instruct young Ladies in Reading, and Needle Work, in the Mornings, at 30s. *per* Quarter.

TAKEN up, in *York* County, near the Half Way House between *York* and *Hampton*, a BLACK HORSE about 9 Years old, 4 Feet 9 Inches high, no Brand, had on a Pair of old Shoes before, paces, gallops, and trots well, with good Courage. Posted, and appraised to 30l.

STARKEY ROBINSON.

FOR SALE,

A SLOOP of about 120 Tons Burthen, now on the Stocks in *Gloucester* County, *Kingston* Parish, and will be completely finished (except Sails and Rigging) within two Months from this Day. No Vessel has a better Frame, or is more faithfully built than this. Any Person inclining to purchase may treat with Mr. *William Lilly*, who lives within one Mile of the said Sloop, or with the Subscriber near *Colchester*. [*June* [illegible], 1777.] (4) JOHN FOWLER.

FIVE POUNDS REWARD.

RUN away from the Subscriber, in the upper End of *Caroline* County, the last Week in *May*, two Negro Men, ABRAHAM and CÆSAR, the former is about 6 Feet 3 or 4 Inches high, is a strong well made Fellow, a Shoemaker by Trade, is a fine Plantation Hand, has had a Sore upon one of his Shin Bones nearly as large as a Dollar, and the Scar is still fresh. *Cæsar* is a Planter, stoops a little in his Shoulders, is an outlandish Negro, and his Temples are full of grey Hairs. I purchased both of the said Slaves last *October* from Col. *Philip Rootes* of *King* and *Queen* County, where I have Reason to believe they are gone. Whoever will take up and deliver the said Negroes to me shall receive the above Reward, or FIFTY SHILLINGS for either of them. ANTHONY THORNTON, Junior.

TAKEN up, in *Cumberland*, a REDISH BRINDLED BULL 2 Years old, with some Whites on his Back and Belly. Posted, and appraised to THIRTY EIGHT SHILLINGS.

(1) JOHN NETHERLAND.

TAKEN up, near *Littlepage's* Bridge, in *Caroline* County, a small BAY MARE about 4 Years old, branded on the near Buttock [illegible]. Posted, and appraised to 12l.

GREGORY BAYNHAM.

HALIFAX, *May* 30, 1777.

FOR SALE, a Tract of Land in *Bute* County, *North Carolina*, containing 1300 Acres, on *Sandy* Creek, formerly the Property of *George Merritt*. The Land is well calculated for Corn, Wheat, or Tobacco. There is three Improvements on the said Land, and Ground cleared sufficient to Work 5 or 6 Hands. Possession to be given on the 1st Day of *January* next. The Terms for the said Land are one Half of the Purchase Money to be paid when Possession is given, the other Half in one Year after. A sufficient Title will be made for the above Land, by HENRY MONTFORT.

WANTED, for ready Money, a TRACT of LAND, 4000 Acres, more or less, cleared and uncleared, than [illegible] very good, and well watered. If in [illegible] Creeks of Tide Water, and Streams sufficient to [illegible] more agreeable.

JAMES HUNTER.

PETERSBURG, *June* 6, 1777.

RUN away from the Subscriber, the 25th of *May*, a Negro Fellow named POMPEY about 5 Feet 4 Inches high, he is very tender footed, about 40 Years of Age, the Corner of his right Eye Lash is off; he had on when he went away an Osnabrug Shirt and Breeches. The above Slave was bought of *Julius Allen* about 5 Months ago. Whoever will bring the said Negro to me in *Pocahontas*, shall receive Twenty Shillings Reward, besides what the Law allows.

MARK EDWARDS.

TAKEN up, in *York* County, a DARK BAY HORSE about 14 Hands high, some Saddle Spots, branded on the Shoulder I, and on the Buttock F, 7 or 8 Years old. Posted, and appraised to 12l.

JOHN GILLET.

FREDERICKSBURG, *June* 10, 1777.

STOLEN on *Saturday* the 31st of *May*, a likely BAY HORSE full 14 Hands high, hanging Mane and Switch Tail, one hind Foot white, Blaze Face, and Snip Nose, several Saddle Spots, but no Brand. Whoever secures and brings me the said Horse shall have a Reward of TEN DOLLARS, and on Conviction of the Thief TWENTY DOLLARS. (1) CHARLES MORTIMER, Jun.

FOR SALE, three Thousand Acres of Land, lying on the Banks of *Rappahannock* River, in the upper Part of *Lancaster* County, nearly opposite *Urbanna*, and stretching three Miles along the said River, esteemed remarkably good, most of it flat low Grounds, with many valuable Improvements, a beautiful Situation with a good Dwelling-House and all convenient Offices about the center of the Tract, and other new Buildings on other Parts of said Land. The Whole to be surveyed and sold, either together or in Lots, as may be most convenient to the Purchaser or Purchasers. This Land has all the Advantages of Creeks, Fish, Oysters, and every other that a Situation in the lower Part of the Country affords; is attended with the Advantages of a good Harbour for Trade, all the Stocks of Horses, Cattle, Hogs, and new Sheep, may be had with the said Lands. For Terms apply to *Henry Armistead*, Esq; on the Premises, or to *Thomas B Griffin*, Esq; near the same, who are invested with competent Powers to dispose of the Whole. (tf) BURGES BALL.

DIXON and HUNTER have on Hand the following BOOKS, which they will sell cheap, for Cash.

LAWS of Virginia.

QUARTOS.

England's Bloody Tribunal, or Popish Cruelty Displayed.
Foster's Discourses on all the principal Branches of natural Religion and social Life, 2 V.
Lucani Pharsalia.

OCTAVOS.

Alexander's Experimental Essays in Physic.
Burn's Justice of the Peace, 4 V.
Broughton on the Nature and Circumstances of the Life to come.
Book of Martyrs, or the History of Paganism and Popery.
Callender's Voyages to the southern Hemisphere.
Delany's Life of David King of Israel, 2 V.
Duhamel's Elements of Agriculture, 2 V.
Dialogues between a Pilgrim, Adam, Noah, &c. containing the History of the Bible and the Jews.
Duclo's History of Lewis XI. King of France.
Every Man his own Lawyer.
Emerson's Astronomy.—Do. Fluxions.—Do. Arithmetic.
Elements of Optics.
Gillie's Devotional Exercises on the New Testament.
Gregory's Treatise of Practical Geometry.
Hill's Family Herbal.
Hammond's historical Narration of the whole Bible.
Noble's Elements of Linear Perspective, demonstrated by geometrical Principles.
Nettleton on Virtue and Happiness.
Revisal of Shakespear's Text, wherein the Alterations introduced into it by the most modern Editors and Critics are particularly considered.
Price's Observations on Reversionary Payments, &c.
Switzer's Nobleman, Gentleman, and Gardner's Recreation, 3 V.
Shaw's Practice in Physic, 2 V.
Simpson's Geometry.
Swift's History of the four last Years of Queen Anne.
Steuart's Physical and Mathematical Tracts.
——— (Mrs.) Meditations upon several Texts of Scripture.
Smollet's Travels through France and Italy,
Sherwin's Mathematical Tables.
True Briton, 2 V.
The Attorney's Practice in Court K. B. and of Com. Pl. 4 V.
Wright's American Negociator, or the various Currencies of the British Colonies, as well the Islands as the Continent.
Walch's History of the Popes, from the Foundation of the See of Rome to the present Time.
Wyld's Practical Surveyor.
Watt's first Principals of Astronomy and Geography.
Wesley's Collection of original Poems and Translations.

DUODECIMOS.

Buchanan's Psalms.
Brown's Pastoral Works, 3 V.
Boyle's Receipts in Physic.
D'Alembert's French Dictionary.
Gil Blas, in French.
Kimber's English and Irish Peerage.
Lewis's Catechism.
Reflections and Observations on the Gout, by James Jay, M. D. M.
Swift's Works, in 24 and 13 V.
Squire's modern Book-Keeping made perfectly easy.
Sterne, 2 Song Book.
Telemaque in French.

SCHOOL BOOKS.

Terence Delphini, Castallio's Bible, 4 V. Bailey's Latin and English Exercise, Clarke's Florus, Mair's Vocabulary, Willymott's Examples, Ruddiman's Grammatical Exercise, Lilly's, Ward's, Clarke's, and Holme's Latin Grammar, London Vocabulary, Christie's Introduction, Entick's Latin Dictionary, Mair's Tyro's Dictionary, Gradus ad Parnassum, Trapp's Prælectiones, 2 V. Pliny's Epistles, Suetonius, Ruddiman's and Maittaire's Greek Testament, Dunlop's Greek Grammar, Æsop's Greek and Latin Fables, Martial's Epigrams, Prosodia, &c. &c. &c.

STATIONARY, &c.

Folio Paper Cases, Music Paper, Ebony and Horn Pounce Boxes, Pounce, Sand Boxes, fine shining Sand, Mazarine Paper for Ladies to work upon, Ivory Folders, Plain Messigo and Playing Cards, Parchment.